

## TWO COUNTIES GO IN FIFTH DISTRICT

(Continued from First Page.)

by the House, which showed that it can retaliate sometimes. One of these was to adjust the payment of pensions by the Auditor so that if the appropriation is not large enough, the oldest classes should be paid first. This went down under the plea that it would be favoring one class over another.

It took a spectacular fight to get through the House a local Senate bill conferring on the supervisors of Alexandria county the powers of a council of a city or town, and upon the judge of the Circuit Court the prerogative of the veto.

### HOUSE

Passage of the congressional redistricting bill and defeat of the measure to require local treasurers to make statements of the financial conditions of their offices were the events of yesterday morning's session in the House of Delegates.

From the Committee on Rules Judge Williams offered a resolution providing that at afternoon sessions uncontested Senate bills should first be given the right of way on each day. It was agreed to.

Mr. Cox presented a joint resolution from the same committee, which provides that, beginning Thursday, the House shall consider only Senate bills and the Senate only House bills. In addition, each body may act on its own bills which have been amended by the other and upon conference reports. It was adopted and sent to the Senate.

**Conference Committee Named.** On motion of Chairman A. M. Bowman, of the Committee on Finance, the House insisted upon its amendments to the general appropriation bill and asked for a committee of conference. Later, Messrs. Bowman, Baker, of Chesterfield, and Harwood were named as the conferees.

There was some debate over a motion, by Chairman Baker, of the Committee on Insurance and Banking, that the Senate bill revoking the charter of insurance companies which take their cases into the Federal courts be reconsidered. Mr. Moncure opposed reconsideration, and Mr. Montague favored it, as did Mr. Rutherford, who said it was a bill for penalizing companies for exercising their constitutional rights. Captain Baker promised to report the bill back without delay, as it was merely to hear another party, and the bill was sent to the committee.

Senate bill No. 55, providing that partnership real estate shall be treated as personal property, was reported by Messrs. Watts, Cox and Williams, and advocated by Messrs. White, of Rockbridge, and Lunsford. It was intended to subject property bought by partners in trade to the debts of the concern as personal property. The opposition said it changed the established rules of descent, and it was rejected, 20 to 11.

**Tobacco Bill Passed.** Another discussion was had over the Senate bill making it a misdemeanor to

**MILLIONS OF FAMILIES are using SYRUP OF FIGS and ELIXIR OF SENNA WITH MOST SATISFACTORY RESULTS.**

**NOTE NAME OF CO. CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. IN THE CIRCLE.**

Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is especially adapted to the needs of men, women and children, to cleanse the system gently, yet effectively, to dispel colds and headaches, to prevent indigestion, sour stomach, gas and fermentation due to constipation and biliousness. As it is free from every injurious or objectionable substance, it is equally beneficial for young and old.

**NOTE NAME OF CO. CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.**

Printed straight across near the bottom and also in the circle near the top of every package of the genuine; for sale by all leading druggists; regular price 50 cents per bottle.

The growing popularity of the genuine Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna has led unscrupulous manufacturers to offer imitations in order to take a larger share of the expense of their customers. If a dealer asks which size you wish, or what make you wish, when you ask for Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, he is preparing to deceive you. Tell him that you wish the genuine. Manufactured by the

**CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. TO GET ITS BENEFICIAL EFFECTS, DECLINE ALL IMITATIONS.**

**Headquarters For SASH DOORS BLINDS**

And all grades of mill work. All orders promptly filled

**BALDWIN & BROWN**

1557 E. Main St.

**R. L. Barnes Safe & Lock Co., Inc., Manufacturers and Dealers**

In everything in Safes, Vaults and Bank Vault Fittings. Special line of Safes, standard fireproof, from \$20 up. Old safes taken in part payment of new purchases. Sketches, catalogues and prices cheerfully furnished on the smallest to largest items.

**R. T. LIPSCOMBE, Sales Manager,**

8-11-13 South Eleventh Street, Richmond, Va.

## Hardman Pianos

Have been selected by many of the world's most famous musicians as their personal piano. Tetrazzini among them.

Write us for catalog.

**Walter D. Moses & Company,**

103 EAST BROAD STREET, Oldest Music House in Virginia and North Carolina.

borrow money from tobacco warehousemen upon a written pledge to sell tobacco to order and then to refuse to sell the crop or to pay the debt. George L. Richardson, of Henry, made a speech in its favor. He said the present statutes do not cover such cases, and it has been found impossible to convict tobacco growers who break their written promises under the law regarding the obtaining of money under false pretenses. The bill, he said, was necessary for the protection of warehousemen.

Dr. S. T. A. Kent, of Halifax, insisted that the old statutes were inadequate. A. B. Martin objected that if hall should destroy a crop, the borrower could be put in jail.

Berkley D. Adams said that if the bill would protect warehousemen and not merchants who do a similar business, it would be class legislation. It was passed, 50 to 22.

**Bills Are Enacted.**

The following Senate bills were passed:

Amending the charter of the city of Portsmouth.

Creating the office of civil and police justice for the city of Portsmouth.

Amending the charter of the city of Alexandria.

Authorizing the city of Fredericksburg to issue bonds for street improvement.

Permitting the erection of a fountain in Alexandria by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Amending the charter of the city of Alexandria.

Providing a new charter for the town of Blacksburg.

Amending the charter of the town of Farmville.

Incorporating the town of Dillwyn.

Regulating the control of the fire and health departments of the city of Alexandria.

Amending the road law of Nelson county.

Amending the road law of Fairfax county.

To pay John A. Bailey \$75, the amount

## LEGISLATIVE COMMENT

By LEWIS H. MACHEN

### POLL TAX CORRUPTION

On the calendar of the House of Delegates, with an adverse report by the Committee on Privileges and Elections, is a bill to prevent the payment of the poll tax of another. It is designed to curtail the practice, which has become as common as coughing, of paying the poll taxes of voters in order to secure their votes for a certain candidate or set of candidates. In most of such cases it is merely an oblique bribe. If bribery is a good and wholesome thing for the State, all of the laws now on the statute books framed upon the opposite idea should be repealed. If it is a bad and criminal thing, the poll tax bribery should be forbidden by law.

The Constitutional Convention had a fine opportunity to dispose of this question by using in one line two words instead of one. It wrote into the Constitution that the poll tax should be "personally" paid by the voter. That language left the matter ambiguous. If it had said it should be paid "in person" by the voter, there would have been no trouble. The courts have held that a personal payment meant a payment by the voter with his own money.

Through the mails, or by a messenger, there is less reason to believe it is the voter's own money than when it is paid in person. When one man sends a check to pay the poll taxes of a hundred voters, at once there is still less certainty that the money comes from the several voters. When he goes to the treasurer's office on the last day on which poll taxes may be paid in order to qualify voters for the next election, examines the lists and pays several hundred of them in a lump, it is pretty certain that he is using the corruption money of some person or combination, and that the poll tax is not being "personally" paid.

Then many of the voters whose poll taxes have been paid in masse come into the treasurer's office late and express surprise that some one else has already paid their poll taxes for them, there is no longer any doubt that the poll tax payment is being used as the avenue for the vicious expenditure of money to influence elections.

This is a thing that has been going on wholesale in Virginia for the ten years that the new Constitution has been operative; yet every effort to have the nuisance abated by the Legislature has been fruitless.

It must be remembered that it was

Along the same line are the Jordan Byrd bill for the purging of registration lists, which have passed the House of Delegates and are now before the Senate, and the bill on Privileges and Elections.

They have been very carefully prepared, and are designed to allow only really law-abiding citizens to participate in the election. It is a good thing that the Legislature has been so far-sighted as to take this step.

It has been charged that in some sections lists, such as these, supplemented by a sufficiently extensive, graveyards, will enable an unscrupulous politician to lead a list of undesired majority in favor of his candidate. In primary elections, in which the voters are not so numerous, the list is the people's own fault, and it is the people's own fault that they must accept the penalty of their own indifference, which is to have but slight control of their government.

amount he owes, and will do so. But such methods should no longer be permitted.

**Explains Difficulties.**

Judge Williams, on the other hand, thought it would be impossible for county treasurers to comply with the bill. The tax tickets are divided out among deputies, he explained, and as they go about the county they collect partial payments from men who hold warrants for unpaid taxes from months. At no particular time could the treasurer tell just what had been paid.

The Gilliam amendment was carried, as was one offered by S. H. Evans, of Caroline, requiring only general receipts, without the detailed statements. An amendment offered by Mr. Bell, putting in a penalty for failure to report, was lost by 23 to 22.

Hugh A. White wanted to put in an amendment permitting the Auditor to inquire for the month of the county treasurers at any time, but as the previous question had been called, this was out of order.

**Bill Is Defeated.**

Then the roll was called and resulted as follows: Ayes—Baker, of Chesterfield; Bell, Borden, Chalkley, Christian, Cox, Creamer, Earman, Fitzhugh, Gilliam, Houston, Ivey, Jennings, Love, Martin, Miltstead, Montague, Moseley, Radford, Richmond, Thompson, Terrell, Throckmorton, Watkinson, Webb, Leggett, Lemmon, White, of Rockbridge, and Speaker Byrd—28.

Noes—Banks, Brewer, Browning, Buck, Coleman, of Norfolk; Curtis, Evans, Flanagan, Fulton, Grant, Howland, Kent, Kinney, Land, Lunsford, Milburn, Mastic, Nease, Moore, Mustard, Norris, Old, Oliver, Page, Rakea, Rew, Richardson, Roberts, of Mecklenburg; Roberts, of Washington, Robertson, Row, Rutherford, Smith, Spensard, Stephenson, of Bath; Stephenson, of James City; Strahan, Tabb, Taylor, Tiffany, Utz, Walton, Webb, Williams, Wise and Wisler—47.

A good many questions were asked regarding the Senate bill to permit cities to levy license taxes on water companies, gas companies and light and power companies. The Legislature of 1910 took these companies from their former status and placed them under control of the State Corporation Commission, to pay 1 per cent. of their gross receipts to the State as public service corporations. In doing so, the cities were deprived of the right to impose license taxes. The Senate had made a maximum charge by cities of 1-2 of 1 per cent. as the city's tax, and some members were dissatisfied about the Miltstead bill permitting a better rate.

"The truth is mighty and must prevail," said Mr. Miltstead, in discussing the bill. In view of this fact, he agreed to dismiss his own House bill and to pass the Holt bill as it came from the Senate, which was done.

**Redistricting Settled.**

The congressional redistricting bill was taken up. As amended by the Senate, Charlotte and Halifax counties were taken from the Sixth District and put in the fifth, and Mr. Jennings inquired as to how this agreed with the action of the House Democratic caucus, which decided that all districts should preserve their existing lines.

Everybody looked to the Halifax delegation, and Joseph Stebbins, Jr.,

ruled by the Attorney-General years ago that it was the duty of the treasurer to receive the poll tax for any person, by whomsoever tendered. Other people, as a rule, have no way of finding out who has paid the poll tax of another. Seldom, if ever, is a grand jury called upon to investigate the evil which the law has been to extirpate, goes unchallenged, while its demoralizing effects multiply.

The Constitutional Convention knew well enough that every poll tax law had been used in force in Virginia had been used as a means of corruption. For that reason it required the payment to be made six months prior to the general election for which the payment qualified the voter. This six months prepayment did not apply to any time dictated by the whim or sinister purpose of a party committee, and so it is possible for the poll tax to be paid to qualify for a primary only a few weeks before the primary is held—at the very heat of the canvass, when the temptation to pay it corruptly is greatest.

The Supreme Court of Appeals has held, very correctly, that special elections, such as those on local option, etc., are not included in the term elections as used by the Constitution in this connection. Therefore, it is possible for the poll tax to qualify a voter for a local option election, and then, the month before the election occurs, at the very hottest period of the canvass, when the temptation to pay it corruptly is the strongest.

Therefore, in nine-tenths of the State, where the primary decides who shall be elected, and in local option elections, where the State of the six months' prepayment plan, relied upon by the Constitutional Convention to prevent the temptation for the corrupt payment of the poll tax, is not observed, it is being used to corrupt the payment of poll taxes. But it seems stranger still that the Legislature should have allowed this evil to be rampant for ten years, unless its members have been in favor of the continuation of this corrupt practice.

Two of our bills were introduced in the Senate with the view of reducing this evil to a minimum. They were put before the Senate, and never saw the light of day. It is anticipated that a similar fate awaits the pending measure, which should have the good fortune of being passed by the House, which seems a somewhat remote contingency.

### PURGING REGISTRATION LISTS

revises the returns and correct the irregularities. This bill would place all at a disadvantage and a premium is placed upon professional election crookedness.

It is incredible that any one should object to the removal of the names of dead men from the registration lists, yet many have done so in the House, and may even make its appearance in the purges of the Senate.

Should the bill get through the Senate, it would place all of our election laws on a plane with the best considered statutes of other States. The election is the mouthpiece through which the people speak. If it is clogged, their voice will inevitably be stifled. If it continues to be clogged, the fact is pointed out, it is the people's own fault, and they must accept the penalty of their own indifference, which is to have but slight control of their government.

There was another fight over a bill providing for the payment of pensions. It proposed to require the Auditor, in the event the appropriation was insufficient to pay the pensions, as was the case last year, to first settle with those who qualified under the original pension act of 1885, and then to pro rate the remainder.

The bill was passed, and then a motion to reconsider was made. Mr. Oliver pointed out that this would discriminate between the pensioners. Mr. Love wanted the claims paid in full so far as the money would go. Colonel Bowman said that it was best to make 10 per cent. of them angry rather than all, by cutting their checks. Besides, he thought this Legislature, in increasing the fund from \$450,000 to \$500,000, had taken care of the future.

Judge Williams argued that it was no case of making people angry, but of keeping pensioners out of the poorhouse. If the appropriation should again prove insufficient, it should be prorated among all.

The bill was dismissed by an overwhelming majority.

**Everybody's Bank Added.**

There was a usual scramble to get every bank in the State on the list of State depositories. The Senate had added a few, and as is the case at every session, the House voted to put them all in. Clerk Williams was kept busy for some time in reading the names of banks. A bond of \$50,000 is required, and the State Treasurer has had no money to divide among them for some time and probably will have none for some years in the future. In view of this, and of the further fact that a multiplicity of depositories further embarrasses the State Treasurer by scattering the funds or by being importuned for deposits, it is believed to be likely that the Senate will kill the whole bill.

**Bills Are Passed.**

The following Senate bills were passed without opposition:

Permitting the appointment of two persons to form a committee for an insane person.

Allowing the right of eminent domain.

made the explanation. The obligation imposed by the House caucus was, he argued, discharged when the House passed the bill in accordance with its mandate. From the first, the Halifax people had not objected to going into the Fifth District, for the good of the party, provided either Charlotte or Mecklenburg could keep it company. All the Senators had agreed that Charlotte and Halifax should be changed, including the members from those counties, and the bill had passed the Senate with but two dissenting Republican votes.

"Personally," said Mr. Stebbins, "I should prefer to remain in the Sixth District, but sincerely hope that I will bow to what is judged to be the best interests of the party, and shall vote for the Senate amendments." The vote was 5 to 13, the minority being the Republicans and a few Democrats.

This ended the morning session.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

A local bill, strange to say, furnished the only important debate of the afternoon. Its object was to invest boards of supervisors of counties having a population of more than 300 to the square mile with the power of councils of cities and towns. It was said to apply only to the county of Alexandria.

This was earnestly fought by Hugh A. White, who called it a monstrosity. In that it permitted the local power over the legislation of the supervisors. No judge, he thought, would place himself in such a position, as it would be an intermingling of legislative and judicial power. William Watts said the measure overturned the principles which have come down from the foundation of the republic.

**Needs of County.**

Robinson Moncure, of Alexandria, made a vigorous reply. He said Mr. White would pronounce the Lord's Prayer and the Ten Commandments to be unconstitutional if presented to him. The county of Alexandria, he pointed out, has fifteen or twenty small towns, which may incorporate at any time. Eventually the little county will be all one city. In the meantime, the small towns could lay off their streets to suit themselves without regard to each other. There should be some central power to direct streets and sewers and water mains, on a general and comprehensive plan.

As to the powers of the judge, he thought the Senate had looked into the constitutionality. If the House thought the supervisors should have the right to spend all the money and do what they pleased without a veto, he did not object. Mayors, he pointed out, have now a mixture of judicial and executive powers. Mr. Throckmorton inquired as to the rights of suits against a city and Mr. Moncure said that if he orders a meal and pays for it, it is nobody's business what he eats, and that the bill suited the people of his county. All factions of both political parties wanted it.

Mr. Moncure also spoke for the bill. He said the mixture of power is true. He said Alexandria county presented unusual conditions and demanded unusual remedies.

Mr. Moncure accepted an amendment offered by Harry R. Houston, providing that the bill should not apply until accepted by the supervisors, by resolution, so as to protect any other county which might come under the purview of the enactment. Mr. White's amendment taking the veto power from the judge was rejected, and the bill was passed by a vote of 53 to 10.

**Pension Bill Defeated.**

There was another fight over a bill providing for the payment of pensions. It proposed to require the Auditor, in the event the appropriation was insufficient to pay the pensions, as was the case last year, to first settle with those who qualified under the original pension act of 1885, and then to pro rate the remainder.

The bill was passed, and then a motion to reconsider was made. Mr. Oliver pointed out that this would discriminate between the pensioners. Mr. Love wanted the claims paid in full so far as the money would go. Colonel Bowman said that it was best to make 10 per cent. of them angry rather than all, by cutting their checks. Besides, he thought this Legislature, in increasing the fund from \$450,000 to \$500,000, had taken care of the future.

Judge Williams argued that it was no case of making people angry, but of keeping pensioners out of the poorhouse. If the appropriation should again prove insufficient, it should be prorated among all.

The bill was dismissed by an overwhelming majority.

**Bills Are Passed.**

The following Senate bills were passed without opposition:

Permitting the appointment of two persons to form a committee for an insane person.

Allowing the right of eminent domain.

### Children Cry for Fletcher's

## CASTORIA

The Kind You Have Always Bought, and which has been in use for over 30 years, has borne the signature of and has been made under its personal supervision since its infancy. Allow no one to deceive you in this. All Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments that trifle with and endanger the health of Infants and Children—Experience against Experiment.

### What is CASTORIA

Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhoea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

### GENUINE CASTORIA ALWAYS

Bears the Signature of

*Charles H. Fletcher*

### The Kind You Have Always Bought

In Use For Over 30 Years

THE CENTAUR COMPANY, 37 MURRAY STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

main, in securing city water supplies, to be applied to dwelling houses.

Regulating the mode of ascertainment of damages in favor of abutting property owners.

Authorizing the trustees of New London Academy to convey the property to the school boards of Bedford and Campbell counties.

Authorizing the purchase of a certain registered certificate to be held to a part of the literary fund.

Releasing certain tax judgments against the land of J. R. Caldwell, in Culpeper county.

Amending the law in relation to granting the swamp lands of the State. Extending the rights of eminent domain to educational institutions.

Adding to the number of commissioners in chancery in certain counties.

Amending the road law of Tazewell county.

Amending the charter of the town of Elba, Pittsylvania county.

Validating the acts of Hastings Court, Part 2, of Richmond.

**Many Advanced.**

These Senate bills were read the second time and advanced to their third reading:

Amending the law regarding the furnishing of State publications to officials.

Amending the road law of Augusta county.

Amending the charter of the city of Norfolk.

Requiring cities, towns and other institutions to deposit copies of their publications in the State Library.

Empowering the State Library Board to sell or exchange duplicates.

Preventing the decision of cases in the Supreme Court on imperfect records.

Providing for proceedings on the judgment of a mayor or justice of the peace when an appeal has been allowed and dismissed.

Regulating the amount of money that may be paid to infants and their parents in certain cases.

Providing for the examination and testing of dairy cattle for tuberculosis.

Providing for the enactment of concurrent legislation regarding the fish and shellfish industry in the Potomac River.

Authorizing the trustees of Clinton Grange, Cumberland county, to sell property.

Amending the crabbing laws.

Permitting an election on the retention or abolition of the dispensary at Ridgeway, Henry county.

Permitting an election on the establishment of a dispensary at Warren.

Regulating local taxation of State banks.

Providing for designation of segregation districts by cities and towns.

people of the amendment to the Constitution permitting city government by commission.

Protecting pheasants in the county of Middlesex.

Providing how fence laws may be changed by supervisors.

Increasing salaries of chemists of the Department of Agriculture.

Consolidating into one act all acts relating to Confederate pensions.

Permitting the directors of the Western State Hospital to dispose of a right of way over its grounds.

Amending the law regulating the sale of conditional stock and poultry food.

At 5 o'clock the House adjourned to 10 o'clock this morning.

### SENATE

Pink carnations graced the desks of all Senators who voted for the Jordan bill on Saturday, when the Senate convened yesterday morning at 11 o'clock.

The flowers were placed by the Woman's Temperance League of America. Rev. Asbury Christian, presiding elder of the Richmond District, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, presented the flowers on behalf of the women's organization. He concluded with an exhortation of hope that it will be his pleasant duty two years from now to present forty bunches of carnations instead of sixteen. Senator Saunders expressed the thanks of the "dry" Senators for the honor thus bestowed upon them.

A message was reported from the House asking for the appointment of a conference committee to act with a similar House committee in adjusting the appropriation bill. The chair appointed on the committee Senators Echols, Holt, and Garrett.

**Montague Makes Merry.**

Senator Montague introduced a freak resolution calling attention to the fact that the United States flag had for some reason been hoisted to half-mast over the Capitol, indicating that the country is in a period of stress. The resolution asked the Senate to express its sympathies to the United States of America, and to appoint a committee to go to the rescue of the flag.

A resolution offered by Senator Rison, which was adopted, directed that the Senate during the remainder of the session meet at 11 o'clock in the morning and adjourn at 2; and to convene at 4 o'clock to adjourn for the day at 6.

**Redistricting Passed.**

The House bill providing for a division of the State into congressional districts was upon motion taken out of its regular order on the calendar and passed. As amended by the Committee on Privileges and Elections, the only change it makes in the present situation, is the transfer of Halifax and Charlotte counties from the Sixth to the Fifth Districts.

The measure passed with but little debate. Senator Souder sought to have an amendment incorporated placing Floyd county in the Fifth, where, he said, it rightly belongs by reason of geographical situation and the sympathies of its inhabitants. The

(Continued on Eighth Page)

**ROSENECK'S BEER**

On Draught, and on Sale in Bottles, Today.

**ROSENECK BREWING CO. RICHMOND, VA.**